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*A Corner
in
Celebrities*

By Alice Elizabeth Trabue
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Published by
GEO. G. FETTER COMPANY,
Louisville.

F459

.F8T75

1922

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By ALICE ELIZABETH TRACE,
Louisville, Ky.



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DEDICATION

To my father, Stephen Fitz-James Trabue and mother Alice Elizabeth (Berry) Trabue, descendants of early pioneer settlers of Kentucky and long residents of Franklin County.

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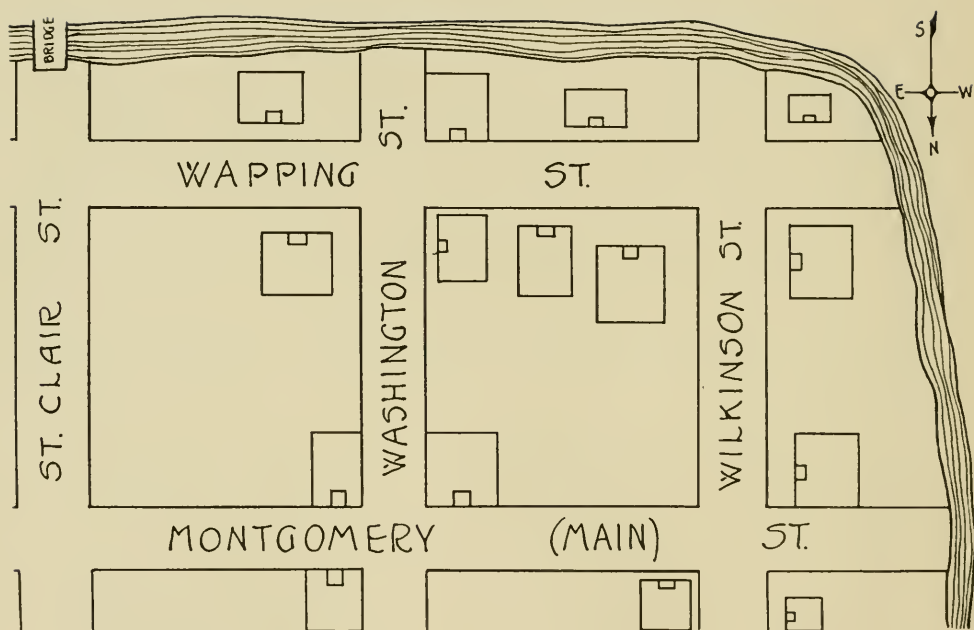
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A Corner in Celebrities

*"Renowned Rome," fortunate in her progeny of heroes.**

IN PICTURESQUE Frankfort Kentucky there is a quaint corner of the town from which have probably sprung more distinguished men than from any like area in the United States. Covering about four acres, bounded by four streets bearing the historic names of Washington, Wilkinson, Montgomery and Wapping, is the central group of some noble old houses which sheltered sires and sons whose deeds brought fame and ever lasting glory to Kentucky. Here dwelt two Supreme Court Justices, two Cabinet officers, nine United States Senators, seven Governors, six Congressmen, seven foreign representatives, and it is here that three Admirals of the Navy first saw the light of day. Can any other town in so small a space, even in Puritan New England, Knickerbocker New York or the Cavalier South, boast so brilliant an array of Governors of the States and men of national and international importance?

Within this small zone for at least one period of their lives, there lived the following brilliant galaxy:

Supreme Court Justices

THOMAS TODD and JOHN MARSHALL HARLAN.

Cabinet Officers

GEORGE MORTIER BIBB and JOHN JORDAN CRITTENDEN.

United States Senators

JOHN BROWN, first United States Senator after Kentucky was admitted into the Union. He served three terms and was President protem 1803-04.

JAMES BROWN, first United States Senator from Louisiana after it was admitted into the Union. By his hands the Monroe Doctrine was transmitted to France, in which country he remained as Minister for six years.

GEORGE MORTIER BIBB, twice United States Senator from Kentucky; appointed Secretary of the Treasury of the United States by President John Tyler.

JOHN JORDAN CRITTENDEN, five times United States Senator,

**"Illa incluta Roma felix prola virum.—Virgil's Aeneid Bk. VI-781-784.*

Governor of Kentucky, member of Congress and twice Attorney General of the United States—appointments by Presidents William Henry Harrison and Millard Fillmore.

THOMAS METCALFE, United States Senator, member of Congress and Governor of Kentucky.

GEORGE GRAHAM VEST and BENJAMIN GRATZ BROWN, both of whom served in the United States Senate from Missouri, the latter was also Governor of that state, and was candidate for the Vice Presidency with Horace Greely.

United States Representatives

ROBERT PERKINS LETCHER, served twelve years; was Governor of Kentucky and Minister to Mexico.

JAMES HARLAN, served several terms.

CHARLES SLAUGHTER MOREHEAD, member of Congress and Governor of Kentucky.

Foreign Representatives

CHARLES S. TODD, Minister to Columbia and to Russia.

THOMAS LEONIDAS CHRITTENDEN, Consul at Liverpool.

CHAPMAN COLEMAN, for twenty years First Secretary of the American Legation at Berlin, later Consul at Roubaix, France and seven years Consul at Rome.

JOHN GLOVER SOUTH, M. D., Minister to Panama—appointed by President Warren G. Harding.

Within this historic spot were born three Admirals of the Navy—

JOHN CRITTENDEN WATSON, CHAPMAN COLEMAN TODD and HUGH RODMAN.

The old citizens of Frankfort like to tell of the youthful pranks of these embryo Admirals, whose sports on the Kentucky River, foreshadowed their future careers. A fourth Naval officer who was reared from infancy in this neighborhood and rose to the rank of a Commodore was ROBERT PHYTHIAN. The home of his youth was the quaint old gabled-roof house on the northeast corner of Main and Wilkinson streets. He was Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and of the Naval Observatory at Washington. Served in the Navy during the Civil war, rendering creditable service. He married Cordelia Brodhead, of Frankfort.

It is interesting to note how many of these distinguished men, honored by both State and Nation, were allied by the ties of marriage or blood, and yet who during the Civil War were completely divided by their separate sympathies. Almost without an exception, they were of Virginia ancestry.

Some were sturdy pioneers of Revolutionary service, who though reared amid luxuries rarely excelled in the homes of any other state, had despite the constant conflicts with Indians, fought their way through the wilderness of forest and cane-brake to take up land grants and surveys in "That newly discovered, wonderful country, Kentucky."*1

The earliest settlements were of necessity around the forts at Harrodsburgh, Logan's Fort, Boonsboro and Danville, until land grants and early surveys rapidly created settlements further down the river.



Courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.
*Centennial Celebration 1886 of the Incorporation of the town of
Frankfort, Ky.*

In 1786, an act was passed to establish the town of Frankfort on one hundred acres of land belonging to James Wilkinson, who was at the time Commander-in-chief of the Western Division of the United States Army. Wilkinson not only had the town established, but with characteristic energy utilized his soldiers to dig great drains that dried the swampy low grounds

*1From the Diary of Colonel Daniel Trabue, a Revolutionary officer.

in the eastern end and by his generosity and tact, attracted a most desirable population. The first streets laid off by him were nearly all named for generals in the Revolutionary War, with the exception of Ann Street, which was named for his wife, a woman said to have possessed rare charm and popularity, and Miro Street, named for the Spanish Governor of the Province of Orleans. It is claimed that the name Wapping was suggested by Mr. Instone, an Englishman, whose cottage was the first home completed on this street.*²

This historic square is just one twenty-fifth part of the original town, to which another hundred or more acres have long since been added on the South side. It is located in a triangle or corner of the town. Wapping Street, beginning at St. Clair follows the river west but two and a half blocks, when the river bends at almost right angles north. Follow Wapping two short blocks, and here Wilkinson Street begins and follows the bend. The name Wapping is derived from "Wapping Old Stair," the King's wharf in London, and it is believed that there is no other residence street bearing this name, as letters addressed "Wapping Street" without city or state address, have found their destination from far distant points. Parallel with Wapping, is Montgomery (now Main) named for General Richard Montgomery, a British Officer, who resigned his commission in 1773 to come to America, and was in 1775 appointed Brigadier-General by the Continental Congress. It was under him that Wilkinson had marched against Quebec. St. Clair Street was named in honor of General Arthur St. Clair of the Revolution, Wilkinson's own Division Commander. Between St. Clair and Wilkinson, lies Washington Street.

Christened at its birth with history making names, is it surprising that the power of suggestion ever recurs inspiring men to fame?—but a word for the "lay of the land" and the setting for its illustrious sons:

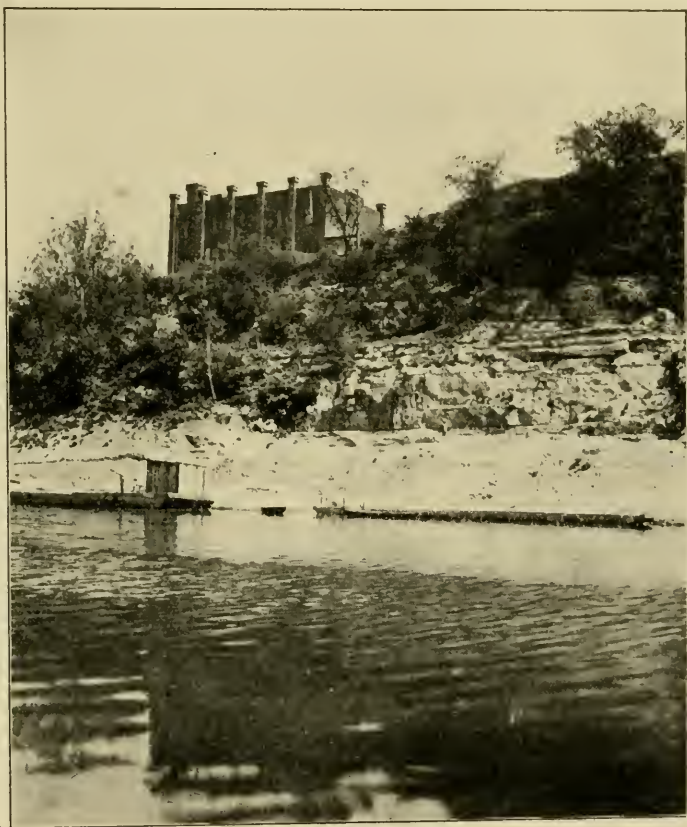
Frankfort is the most romantic of spots—a constant inspiration where artists never tire of painting and poets sing their songs—Theodore O'Hara in his immortal "Bivouac of the Dead," Henry T. Stanton, Robert Burns Wilson, Mrs. Jennie Chinn Morton and others.

It lies in a valley, surrounded by towering hills spread like tapestried screens with their never ending changes of color from the masses of Red-bud, White Dog-wood and the delicate greens of the early spring, deepening in tone as the summer wanes, to the blaze of red and gold of October. Winding half way around the town, dividing in it two, is the incomparable Kentucky River, wooded down to its water's edge, whence in many instances, garden walks lead back through rows of lovely flowers to fine old

*²From an unpublished document in the Kentucky State Historical Society.

square brick homes which have stood for many decades, and in a number of instances have been occupied through four or five generations by a single family to the present day.

We see the picturesqueness of her situation, her lovely gardens and spacious homes, her peaceful, nay even drowsy aspect. The casual tourist motoring from Louisville, viewing from the winding pike the splendid new Capitol buildings cameoed against the green hill beyond, often feels that after a brief inspection of these buildings all worth while has been seen, so crossing the bridge to the North side, they drive a few squares through



Courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.

The Arsenal

the business section, until they mount the hill top, past the gray and venerable arsenal and historic cemetery—and on to the Bluegrass region beyond. How few of these know or realize that had they but turned to the left after crossing the St. Clair Street bridge, and driven those two short squares down Wapping near the river's bend, then over to Main Street, encircling the square, they might have seen on either side of the street and in close proximity, the most historic small neighborhood to be

found in America. How often they would pause to ask who built these homes—what spirit of enterprise, culture and statesmanship was housed within their walls in bygone days! And were the travelers more favored, and could they enter the great wide halls, they would be greeted by what is even rarer in our fast changing American life—an almost unchanged appearance within, where fine old mahogonies and rare silver services have stood the test of time; and where from lofty walls hang portraits by Gilbert Stuart, Sharpless, Jouett, Moise and Fowler, John Neagle, Chester Harding, Joseph Bush, Marshall, Robert Burns Wilson, Paul Sawyer, Charles Snead Williams and other artists contemporaneous with the generations as they came.

And the women of these homes! A volume might be written of their charm and culture; their devoted loyalty to the past and to each other. With them the vicissitudes of fortune have counted little; through prosperity and adversity they have kept faith with bygone days with a grace rarely to be seen in any community.

Throughout the whole boundary of North and South Frankfort and extending into its country side, men of distinction lived and left their stamp indelibly upon the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Their names are legion and would compel an endless task to innumerate, but it is to this one small corner of the town that I must restrict my boundary, convinced that no other locality of so small a radius has harbored so many men of distinction. It is of these men only, and where they dwelt that it is my purpose to write, regretting that I must pass, unmentioned, homes of citizens worthy of note, who with their families have occupied homesteads for four generations, and confine my account to Governors of the states and men of National and inter-national importance.

General Wilkinson was a native of Benedict, Maryland, and had just completed his education for the medical profession when the news of Bunker Hill caused him to join the troops in front of Boston. He soon became a staff officer under General Gates and rose to the rank of Colonel at Saratoga, and by the close of the war was recommended by Gates to the rank of Brigadier General. Though having for a time resigned his commission and become a private citizen, in 1791 he re-entered the army and in 1796 was Commander-in-chief of the United States Army. He had engaging manners, was an eloquent public speaker, a clear thinker and writer, and a man of more than ordinary attainments. He was a member of the Second Assembly, and as much as any man identified with Kentucky's early struggles for independence. He prepared the memorial in which "the people of the Western country set forth their grievancies and

besought equality of consideration." Washington is quoted by Jefferson as having said of him "brave, enterprising to an excess, but with many unapprovable points in his character." Indeed, old diaries in Kentucky record the fact that his autocratic tendencies were manifested by an order commanding the officers under him to cut off their queues, the result having been many resignations.

At this time the gulf states were under the control and belonged to the Spanish Government. Miro was in charge and granted some privileges of trade and the free use of the Mississippi river for the transportation of freight, besides an offer of nearly five times as much for tobacco as the Kentuckians were receiving. Wilkinson was under suspicion of having betrayed the district of Kentucky to Miro and the Spanish Government. In 1805 he held a high military position in the Territory of Louisiana; in 1811 he was courtmarshalled and charged with treason in connection with Aaron Burr, but was acquitted. Later evidence was brought to light through letters of his own in the Spanish Archives, that for several years prior to 1800, he was a pensioner of the Spanish Government. He resigned from the United States Army and about 1813 went to Mexico, where he died twelve years later, said to have been possessed of large investments.

Wilkinson reserved for his own use the Wharfage space along the Kentucky River from St. Clair Street to the river's bend, where, at the cross section of Wilkinson and Wapping Streets, on the southwest corner, he built a large dwelling, in proportion far excelling any house in town—a ferry landing at the bank. It was the proffered use of this house to the state free of charge for seven years that helped to decide the location of the Capitol six years later. Here November 1793, the Second Session of the Legislature was held, for although Danville had been the cradle of Kentucky political activities for nine years, the Capitol was first established in Lexington June 1792. There was thus transferred to Frankfort the political importance which Danville had enjoyed. Andrew Holmes was at the time the temporary occupant of this house but it was subsequently for seventy-five or more years better known as "The Old Love House," it having become the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Love, one of Kentucky's strong women of pioneer days, noted for her social, intellectual and christian virtues. Her husband, Major Thomas Love, had served under General Anthony Wayne, in his Western Campaigns, at the end of which he had retired and located permanently in Frankfort where for a number of years he and his wife were proprietors of a large tavern known as "The Love House." It is here that Aaron Burr consulted with his lawyers and where he and many

noted men of their day were guests upon their visits to this locality, and where the exiled French Prince Louis Philippe found for a period a home, and here it was at a ball given in his honor, that the young Prince met a surprise in the refusal of Mrs. Love to accept him as a partner in the Minuet, explaining that she had previously refused an humbler admirer whom she would justly offend. Many years later when the change of fortune had established him in the Tuileries, it was in conversation with a distinguished American, that the Prince recalled the incident and praised the kind heart of the young woman.*¹

Burr had with humiliation seen his rival Jefferson, chosen by an almost unanimous vote for a second term. Jefferson would not appoint him to a foreign mission, and he had lost influence after slaying Hamilton. He was first in Frankfort in 1805. It was in Frankfort in 1806 that a local newspaper, "The Western World," unearthed the alleged conspiracy of Burr with Blennerhassett and others against the United States. On November the fifth, the United States District Attorney, Joseph Hamilton Daviess instituted proceedings in the United States District Court, demanding that Burr be made to answer a charge of High misdemeanor in organizing a military expedition against a friendly power. Burr, who was at Lexington at the time, came to Frankfort with his young attorneys Henry Clay*² and John Allen, and finding a delay impending, insisted upon an immediate trial. After several suggested postponements by the District Attorney, conditioned by his failure to procure several important witnesses, it was not until December 3 that the climax came. The town and country side were crazed with excitement and the Court House crowded to its capacity. The final failure of the grand jury to return an indictment was regarded by Burr's friends as a complete vindication and celebrated that evening by a ball at the Philip Bush Tavern. Conspicuous among those present were officers of both State and Nation. The fact that Joseph Hamilton Daviess was a strong Federalist and political opponent of the Jefferson and Burr administration, and had a controlling influence with the "Western World," induced much sympathy for Burr's cause.

Below is a copy of a letter from Mrs. Parmelia Sawyer, a girl of but sixteen years old at the time of the ball:

"A ball was given at the Philip Bush Tavern at the corner of Main and Lewis Streets, where I danced in the same set with Colonel Burr. My vis-a-vis, his partner, was Mrs. Thornton, the daughter of our neighbor

*¹From the writings of Mr. John Mason Brown, Sr.

*²Before Burr received Clay's consent to take charge of his case, he received Burr's pledge of honor that he was in no way engaged in such project as the enemy charged.—*Shaler* p. 153.

Judge Harry Innis. He was handsome, with marked eye-brows, small in stature, but dignified in mien. In manner polite and refined and quite a hero in my young eyes. On this occasion he wore small clothes, gold knee buckles and immense rosettes on his pumps; a queue tied with black ribbon, and powdered wig. His eyes were bright and piercing.”*¹

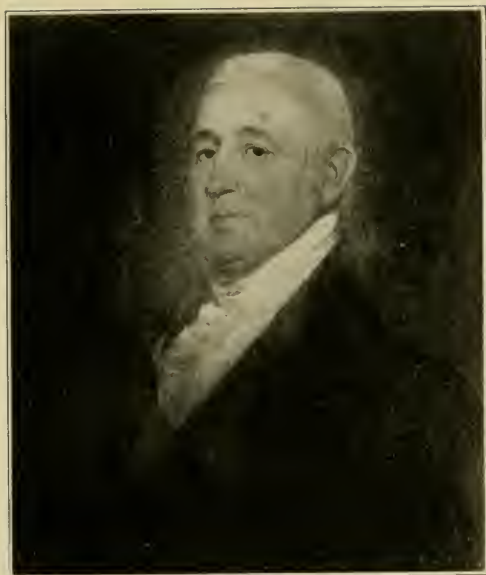
When Mrs. Love’s only son joined the troops of 1812, she with her own hands made the uniform which he wore and was the “God Mother” of many another soldier of that period, knitting socks and supplying comforts in every available way. In fact, so varied were her interests and so interwoven was her life with all the historic events during her fifty or more years of residence here,*² that no account of Frankfort could be complete without her. The old house has long since been supplanted by a modern structure.*³

*²Mrs. Love died January 19, 1845, having survived her husband many years. Her’s was the first burial in the new state cemetery.

*³The old house was replaced in 1870.



Courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.
State Monument, also showing tomb of Theodore O'Hara.



Painted by Matthew Jouett

Hon. John Brown

AMONG the most prominent in the stormy events of nine years duration leading to the separation of Kentucky from Virginia on June 1, 1792 (it being the first state which made application to be admitted after the original thirteen) and in securing to the West the full benefits of an unobstructed Navigation of the Mississippi River, was the HON. JOHN BROWN, born in Staunton, Virginia, September 12, 1757. He was the son of John Brown a distinguished Presbyterian minister who had charge of a church in Rockbridge Co., Virginia for over fifty years and who, having been a student of one of the first classes of Princeton College under the Presidency of the father of Aaron Burr, and a graduate himself, sent his son to that institute of learning until it was broken up by the Revolutionary War*¹.

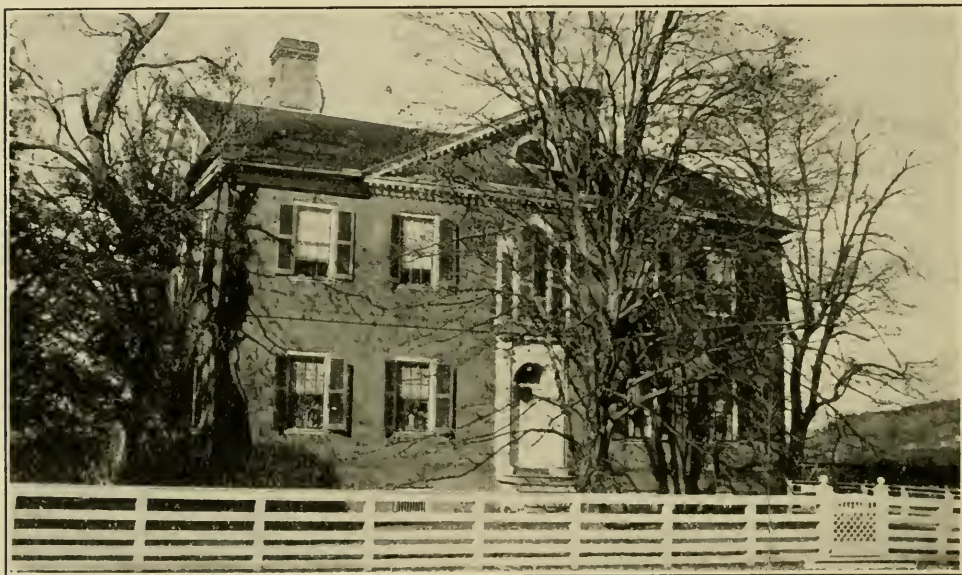
JOHN BROWN, JR. joined the troops under Washington and participated in the spectacular crossing of the Delaware River, later serving as Aid to LaFayette. He graduated at William and Mary College, and after reading law with Thomas Jefferson, removed to Danville Kentucky in 1782, but shortly afterwards settled in Frankfort three years prior to the incorporation of that town.

He was a member of the Virginia Legislature from Kentucky; member of the conventions of 1788; and first and only member sent to the Old

*¹Rev. John Brown married Margaret Preston.

Congress by the people of Kentucky, 1789-91. After Kentucky was admitted into the Union, he was one of the two*² first United States Senators, being three consecutive times elected to that body, and its President from 1803-04. He projected several expeditions against the Indians; was an intimate friend of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, and urged by Jefferson and Monroe to accept Diplomatic office, but declined. He was a classical scholar, fine lawyer and ranked among the foremost men of his day.

When the second State House was destroyed by fire, 1824, John Brown, Peter Dudley, John Harvie and James Shannon were empowered in 1827*³ to employ an architect*⁴ to build the third permanent State Capitol. The design was considered at the time second only in beauty to the Nation's



"Liberty Hall," erected 1796 by Hon. John Brown as a home for his parents. It was also the home of Hon. James Brown and Governor Benjamin Gratz Brown. Today occupied by the fifth generation, Mary Mason and John Matthew Scott.

Capitol and stands today a credit to the classic tastes of that period, it being admirably suited to the Kentucky State Historical Society and the housing of fine old portraits, to which purpose it was dedicated in 1920.

He died August 28, 1837 at "Liberty Hall," his spacious brick residence, named for his ancestral home at Washington-Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. This was erected 1796 as a home for his parents—three years prior to his own marriage—on the southwest corner of Wilkinson and

*²John Edwards was the other U. S. Senator.

*³Collins History of Kentucky.

*⁴Strickland of Philadelphia was employed.

Montgomery Streets. The lot occupied the entire block. The house is a beautiful example of Georgian architecture, designed by Thomas Jefferson, the glass having been brought out through the Virginia mountains on muleback. The fine old garden is still to be seen extending back to the river's edge, and is today the most extensive and beautiful of the many charming gardens to be found in Frankfort.

It is here in 1819, that his wife Margaretta, nee Mason, assisted by Mrs. Love founded the first Sunday School (Presbyterian) west of the Alleghanies; the initial meeting having been under a large apple tree on the lawn, where the services were continuously held thereafter when the weather permitted, otherwise adjourned to the commodious drawing room of her residence:^{*1}. In June a large bunch of Multaflora roses from her garden was awarded the best attendant of the past winter. It is a fact worthy of note that in the year ending September 30, 1822, among many who distinguished themselves, the two highest marks were attained by Ann Mary Crittenden who memorized 2,851 Bible verses in twelve months, while her younger sister, Cornelia Crittenden, aged six years memorized 2,177.

When we pause to consider that Kentucky was so many hundred miles from the seat of Government, beyond the Virginia mountains, and with no railroad until 1833, it presents a unique situation that among the distinguished men to have visited this home, were LaFayette, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, General Wilkinson, Aaron Burr, Zachary Taylor, Andrew Jackson and Theodore Roosevelt—three of them having been present at one visit. (See Addenda)

It was during the ball given in his honor, which Mrs. Brown through religious piety had failed to attend, that LaFayette, with the simplicity and informality of the really great, slipped quietly away to this house to pay his respects to the wife of John Brown, his early Aid, and the daughter of Reverend John Mason, his Chaplain in the Revolution.

His children were Mason and Orlando. Mason was on the Circuit Court Bench for ten years, resigning to become Secretary of State of Kentucky under Governor Charles S. Morehead, with whom he had written a Digest of the Statute Laws of Kentucky.

With the characteristic taste and public interest manifested by Judge Mason Brown when he became one of the ruling influences in having the second State Cemetery established in the United States,^{*2} and in selecting

^{*1}My authorities are the statements of several of Mrs. Brown's grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

^{*2}The first state cemetery was at Mount Auburn, Massachusetts.

its rare situation, he went even further and imported from New York City, the celebrated young Russian Sculptor, Robert E. Launitz. To him he offered the hospitality of a home during the long delay while awaiting the arrival of the great marble shaft that had been shipped from Italy for the beautiful State Monument. This was to be erected to the soldiers and sailors of the Mexican War. It came by way of the Mississippi River directly from New Orleans, where a barge had been sent to receive it. Launitz' rare art is met on every hand throughout the entire cemetery.

Mason's only child by his first marriage*¹ was BENJAMIN GRATZ BROWN, a graduate of Transylvania and Yale Colleges, who removed to Missouri, serving in the United States Senate 1860-67; and was Governor of that state 1870-74; was also candidate for the Vice-Presidency on the ticket with Horace Greely. He attained great prominence throughout the country, having been a most able, eloquent speaker, an inherited quality partly attributable to his maternal grand-father, the celebrated Jesse Bledsoe.

He married Mary Gunn of Missouri and left many decendants.

Judge Brown having inherited the homestead, it has remained in an unbroken line of inheritance through five generations to the present day, it now being the home of Mary Mason, and John Matthew Scott. Here resided for the greater part of their lives, Mason's three daughters—Margaretta, Mrs. William F. Barret, Kentucky's late Regent to the Mount Vernon Association; Mary Yoder, Mrs. William T. Scott; and Eliza Eloise, wife of Joseph C. Baily, a Surgeon U. S. A., three of Kentucky's most prominent women, who each after but ten years of married life, returned widowed to the homestead, which had early become the property of Mrs. Scott and where Mrs. Baily still resides.*²

*¹Judge Mason Brown married first, Judith A. Bledsoe of Lexington, Ky; he married second, Mary Yoder, also of Kentucky.

*²Besides Judge Mason Brown's three daughters, by Mary Yoder, his three sons were:

I. John Mason Brown, the eldest of the family, late a prominent lawyer of Louisville, Ky. He married Mary Owen Preston of Lexington, Ky., daughter of General William Preston, C. S. A., who served as Minister to Spain. Had—

1. Preston, who was several times decorated for bravery in France during the World's War, Pershing having cabled from the field recommending his promotion to Major General; he married Susan Dorrance; 2. John Mason, Jr., deceased; married first, Carrie Ferguson; and second, Grace Duderough, of Maryland; 3. Mary Mason, wife of Henry M. Waite, a grandson of Morris R. Waite, Chief Justice of the United States; 4. Margaret.

II. Yoder Brown, died; unmarried.

III. Knox Brown, married Adeline Watson, had—

1. Pauline; 2. Yoder; 3. John Watson; 4. Barret; 5. Joseph Baily; 6. Rhodes.



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

*Erected 1835 by Hon. John Brown, for his son, Orlando.
Today occupied by his great grand children.*

The old pioneer desiring that his two children might share equally in his estate, erected in 1835 for his son Orlando, on the South corner of his lot, another beautiful and spacious dwelling of Georgian Architecture. Orlando was Commissioner of Indian Affairs and also a Journalist of Frankfort. His first marriage was to his first cousin Mary Watts Brown*³ and through the marriage of their son, Orlando Jr., to Elizabeth Hord*⁴ who survives him, with her three children—Anne Hord, Mary Watts, and Mason Preston Brown, this home is today held intact, and it would be hard to find in America two lovelier examples of Colonial interiors surviving so many generations. Orlando Jr. served as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twenty-second regiment in the Union Army under General D. W. Lindsey, during the Civil War.

Last, but by no means least of this distinguished family, was the HON. JAMES BROWN, younger brother of John. He was born in Staunton, Virginia, September 11, 1766 and educated at William and Mary College,

*³Daughter of Dr. Preston Brown. Orlando married as his second wife, Cordelia Price, widow of Mr. Lucas Brodhead.

*⁴Daughter of Judge Lysander B., and Anne (Price), Hord, of Frankfort.



By Matthew Jouett

Hon. James Brown

but removed to Lexington, Kentucky, 1789. He commanded a company of riflemen under General Wilkinson 1791 and was appointed, a year later, the first Secretary of State of Kentucky, by Governor Isaac Shelby, its first Governor. Removing to Frankfort when the seat of Government was brought there, he for a number of years made his home with his brother John, but soon after the cession of the Louisiana Territory, he settled in New Orleans, when he became Secretary of the Territory, and subsequently United States District Attorney. Becoming the first United States Senator after that state was admitted into the Union, December 1, 1812, he served two terms but resigned December 10, 1823 when President Monroe appointed him Minister to France, where he remained six years, it being by his hands that the Monroe Doctrine was transmitted to the French Government. A second document of importance which James Brown took with him to France was the letter of February 24, 1824 from President Monroe to LaFayette, in which he stated that Congress, by resolution, authorized him to send a frigate to convey the Marquis de LaFayette for a visit to this country.

He had a distinguished and successful career and possessed a most graceful and charming personality. He married Nancy Hart, a sister of Mrs. Henry Clay. His death occurred suddenly in Philadelphia April 7, 1835.

In the two beautiful old homes built by Hon. John Brown can be

seen portraits of these pioneer brothers, including Dr. Samuel Brown,*¹ the celebrated physician and scientist, painted by noted English and American artists of the day, forever a testimony to their distinguished appearance.

*¹Dr. Samuel Brown, first Professor of Medicine of Transylvania and the great western country, was born January 30, 1769 in Virginia, son of Rev. John and Margaret (Preston) Brown, and grandson of John and Elizabeth (Patton) Preston.

He was professor of Chemistry, Anatomy and Surgery at Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky., 1799, and to whom we are indebted for the first introduction into the west of the prophylactic use of the Cowpox. In 1802, he had vaccinated upwards of five hundred persons, when New York and Philadelphia physicians were just making their first experimental attempts. It was used in Lexington even before Jenner could gain the confidence of the people of his own country. He was a classmate in Edinburgh, Scotland, of Dr. Ephriam McDowell, of Danville, Ky., the world renowned pioneer in Ovariotomy Surgery.

Transylvania University had its origin at Danville, or Crow's Station, near by, November, 1783; the Seminary removed to Lexington, 1789, and was established there December 2, 1798. It was the third Medical college in the United States. The Law Department was organized by Colonel George Nicholas, a soldier of the Revolution, and member of the Virginia Conventions.



The Third State Capitol, 1827

Caufield & Shook, Photographers



Painted by Matthew Jouett

Courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.
Marquis de LaFayette.



W. B. Oelza Photographer

Home of Justice Thomas Todd of the Supreme Court of the United States, where LaFayette was entertained at dinner, May 9, 1825.

CONTEMPORANEOUS with these men in the early formation of Kentucky, and destined to become one of its most eminent citizens was THOMAS TODD, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Springing from an old and distinguished line of Thomas Todds of Virginia and Maryland, who intermarried with many other families of note, he added honor to the name he bore. He was born January 23, 1765 in King and Queen County, Virginia, son of Richard Todd and left an orphan and through the financial embarrassment of his guardian, he was at an early age thrown on his own resources. He fought in the Revolution towards the close of the War, after which he resided for a time in the home of his kinsman, Harry Innis, (subsequently the first Chief Justice of Kentucky) and removed with that family to Danville Kentucky, 1783, teaching the daughters by day and studying law by night by the light of the log fire. He made his first effort at Madison Old Court House, his slender outfit consisting of a horse, saddle and bridle and thirty seven and a half cents in money. But when the Court rose, he had enough to

meet his current expenses and returned home with the bonds for two cows and calves and the usual fees of that day. Though but nineteen years of age, he was chosen and acted as clerk of the first convention ever held in that place, and of all the succeeding Conventions in Kentucky, until the establishment of the state in 1792. He represented Kentucky in the Virginia Legislature before Kentucky was declared a State; was one of the electors of the Senate; Clerk of the old Federal Court in the District, and upon the establishment of the Court of Appeals under the Second Constitution, 1799, was appointed its first clerk. At the age of thirty six he was appointed a judge of the Court of Appeals and at forty, its Chief Justice.

When the Seventh United States Circuit was formed, composed of Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio, President Jefferson appointed him an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, commissioned March 3, 1807.*¹ It being necessary to bring to the deliberation of the Supreme Court, some one well versed in the peculiar land laws of that vast Western region, it is said that Jefferson in making his decision, requested each member of Congress from the States in this Circuit, to communicate a nomination of their first and second choice and that the name of Todd appeared on every list, although personally unknown to many of his supporters.

His decisions while on the Court of Appeals laid the foundation of the Land Laws of his State and his perfect familiarity with questions of this character gave him later a controlling influence with his associate brothers on the Supreme Court of the United States. This latter position he held until his death February 7, 1826.

At a meeting of the members of the Frankfort Bar, John J. Crittenden being called to the chair, the resolution was adopted:

“That in consideration of the acknowledged virtues and distinguished talents, learning and character of the deceased and high respect and esteem entertained for him by the Bar, they will attend the funeral on tomorrow and wear crape on the left arm for a space of thirty days.”

It was said of him by Mr. Justice Story:

“He was patient and candid, in investigation, clear and sagacious in judgment, with a just respect for authority” * * * * “diffident and retiring in his habits, he won the enviable respect of his associates.”

He had removed to Frankfort when the seat of the Government of Kentucky was brought there, and today his old home can be seen on the

*¹This appointment was particularly flattering to Kentucky, as Jefferson had only two years previously appointed Hon. John Breckinridge of Fayette County, Attorney General of United States. He was the first Kentuckian to serve in the Cabinet.

northeast corner of Wapping and Washington streets, a handsome two story brick house of square Colonial outline, whose gabled roof and spacious rooms have sheltered Todds even unto the fifth generation.

By his first wife, Elizabeth Harris, of Pennsylvania, was his eldest*¹ son CHARLES STEWART TODD, born near Danville, Kentucky, January 22, 1791. He graduated at William and Mary College, Virginia and studied law with his father, afterward attended lectures at Leitchfield Connecticut under celebrated instructors and at Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky. from which Institute so many eminent physicians and lawyers have gone forth.

He volunteered in 1812 and was on the staff of General William Henry Harrison, as Division Judge Advocate of Kentucky troops and rose rapidly to the rank of brevet-Colonel of Cavalry. When the war was over, he located in Frankfort to practice Law. He was Secretary of State of Kentucky under Governor George Madison and was later a member of the Kentucky Legislature.

Upon his return, after having served as charge de' affairs to Columbia, South America, where he was appointed in 1823, he retired to a farm in Shelby County, Kentucky, when in just recognition of his scientific knowledge, he became President of the State Agricultural Society. A second and greater recognition of his knowledge of this science, was received some years later. While acting under the appointment of President Tyler as Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia, the Czar made him a member of the Imperial Agricultural Society, an honor but rarely conferred on a foreigner.

In 1850 he was one of the three Commissioners to treat with the Indians on the Mexican border and drew up the final report of the Commission to the Government.

In appearance he was said to have resembled Louis Philippe.

He married Letitia, daughter of Governor Isaac Shelby and Thomas,*² one of his several children, commanded a company in the Mexican War. He died May 14, 1871, while on a visit to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The second son of Mr. Justice Todd—John Harris Todd—married his first cousin, the beautiful Maria Knox Innis, (daughter of Chief Justice Harry Innis), who afterwards became the second wife of John J.

*1Other children were John Harris Todd; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Hannah; and Maria, Mrs. Edmund Starling.

*2Other children were, Dr. Charles H. Todd, married Rosa Burwell; Letitia, married Dr. John Carter; Virginia, married Daniel Moseley Griffith, of Owensboro.

Crittenden.*¹ Through their son, Harry I. Todd, they were the grandparents of REAR ADMIRAL CHAPMAN COLEMAN TODD, born April 5, 1848 in the two story brick house on the Southeast corner of Main and Washington Street, directly behind the Todd homestead. In 1862, the Civil War being in progress, there was need for an increase in the United States Navy—hence his appointment to Annapolis before the age of fourteen, the appointment being made by his step-grandfather, Hon. John J. Crittenden, then a Representative in Congress.

Admiral Todd served in the Spanish-American War. He was also commander of the first exploration up the headwaters of the Orinoco and Amazon Rivers, retiring from the Navy after forty-five years of service, with the rank of Rear Admiral.

He was twice married, first to Ann Mary Thornton, a sister of the wife of Admiral Watson; next to Eliza James*² who is the mother of his son Chapman Coleman Todd Jr., a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy, who participated in the late War.

While serving on the supreme bench at Washington, Mr. Justice Todd was a frequent visitor at the White House during the administration of President James Madison. There he wooed and won Lucy Payne (widow of George Steptoe Washington) a sister of the peerless Dolly Madison. This was the first wedding ever performed in the White House. (1812)

*³The eldest son of this second marriage, James Madison Todd, inherited the homestead, where he lived to an advanced age, surrounded by a large family.*⁴ President Madison, General LaFayette and many distinguished men have been entertained within these walls.

When General LaFayette, accompanied by his son, George Washington LaFayette, his secretary, Auguste Levasseur*⁵ and ever faithful servant Bastienne visited Frankfort on May 9, 1825, seven military companies and a large number of private citizens in carriages and on horseback rode for miles out the public highway to meet and escort him into town. Mr. Justice Todd and his small son, James Madison, were among the riders, as it was at the Todd residence that he was to be entertained at dinner that evening, before he repaired to the "Weisiger House" for a ball in his honor.

*¹Their children were Captain Harry I. Todd, who married Jane Davidson; Catherine Lucy "Kitty," who married her step-brother Thomas Leonidas Crittenden; and Elizabeth Anne, who married William Henry Watson.

*²Daughter of Judge Andrew James of Frankfort.

*³Other children of Mr. Justice Todd by his second marriage were,—William Johnston Todd, who married Miss Swain; Dolly Madison Todd, married Mr. Vaughan.

*⁴The children of James Madison Todd and Allisona Bibb Renick were,—Alexander, married Alice Gay; Lucy Payne; William Johnston; Ann Mary; Letitia Lee, married Robert Arthur Peter of Louisville; Allisona; and James Madison, Jr., married Miss Ross.

*⁵From the many notes made by Levasseur, he subsequently compiled a book of his travels.

It is said that upon the gala occasion of LaFayette's entrance into Frankfort from Louisville, the St. Clair bridge over which he passed, was garlanded with flowers, the young boys of the town formed themselves into a military company, while the little girls ran through the streets strewing flowers in his path. The Legislature of Kentucky appropriated over eight thousand dollars towards the entertainment of LaFayette and to defray the expenses of his accepted invitation to visit Kentucky. An original invitation to the ball at the "Weisiger House" can be seen framed and hanging in the Kentucky Historical Society Building at



Painted by Matthew Jouett

Mrs. Thomas Todd, nee Lucy Payne



Painted by Matthew Jouett

Justice Thomas Todd

Frankfort, as can also be seen the superb life size portrait of him, painted by the famous Kentucky Artist, Matthew Jouett, by order of the Legislature and Governor Desha during his stay in Washington in the winter of 1825, Jouett having received \$1500.00 for the work*⁴ Thus with the whole of the United States acclaiming him, LaFayette passed from one triumph to another, visiting the twenty-four states of the Union during his sojourn of fifteen months in this country.

*⁴From the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society.



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

The Burnley Home, built by Mr. John B. Bibb

FEW MEN have attained the dignity of the bench at so early an age, and left so enduring an imprint upon the courts of Kentucky as did HON. GEORGE MORTIER BIBB, born in Virginia, October 30, 1776, son of Rev. Richard Bibb, a distinguished minister of the Episcopal Church. He graduated at Hampton Sydney and William and Mary Colleges, Virginia and in 1798 removed to Kentucky, where he rose rapidly through his solid legal attainments until considered one of the most able lawyers of the state. When but thirty years of age, he was appointed one of the Judges of the Court of Appeals, and the following year its Chief-Justice. Succeeding Henry Clay in the United States Senate he served two terms and served nine years as Chancellor of the Louisville Chancery Court, gaining great distinction as such. This later position he resigned to become Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of President John Tyler. At the close of that administration he entered upon the practice of the law in the District of Columbia and also acted as assistant in the office of the Attorney-General United States. He died April 14, 1859 in Georgetown, D. C. "eminent in his profession, able and noted."

He was the last representative to wear knee breeches at the National Capitol.

His first wife was Martha, a daughter of General and Governor Charles Scott (a General in the Revolution and fifth Governor of Kentucky) and through their daughter Frances Ann, descended the Burnley family, who constituted one of Frankfort's most esteemed households for a half century.*¹

The home owned and occupied by Judge Bibb for many years, is an old fashioned two story house on Washington Street, which is still standing with its same quaint New England entrance. It is but one half square out of my boundary and has long since passed from the possession of the Bibb family, but in the lovely old two story, gabled roofed brick house of his brother, Mr. John B. Bibb, on Wapping Street, have lived the Burnley family for several generations, it now being occupied by Misses Fannie and Ann Mary Crittenden, great grand-daughters of George M. Bibb and grand-daughters of John J. Crittenden.

But the most prominent of his descendants, and of the men and women of Frankfort without whom no social account could be complete and to whom the author is indebted, through personal interviews, for the nucleus of information contained in this article, is his grand-daughter MARTHA ANN, better known as "MISS PATTY BURNLEY." In her death at her home above mentioned on Wapping Street, November 16, 1919, not only Frankfort, but the state of Kentucky lost one of its most distinguished women. And it can be truly said of her that she died eighty-eight years young, with her brilliant mind lasting to the end—an ornament to any society.

She was born July 2, 1831 at "Cornland," Daveiss County Kentucky, the country seat of her honored grandfather, Judge Bibb. Her father, Albert S. Burnley, was the son of an English gentleman who emigrated to Virginia.

At an early age Miss Burnley removed with her parents to Washington City where her father was prominently engaged in the newspaper business; while she, as a pupil of Madam Conde's famous French School in New York City, became a most proficient French scholar. This accomplishment she retained throughout life and at the age of eighty-six years, she by request, assumed the position of "Official Letter Writer" for many of the

*¹Among other children were Titus Pomponius Atticus, George N. and Mary Lucy Pocahontas, who rests in the lone grave at Paroquet Springs, Ky. Judge Bibb married a second time in Washington City, and left several children.

people of Frankfort, adopting French orphans, during the World War.

Her girlhood was spent in New York and the National Capital, where she was heir to the highest social advantages that wealth and position bring.

Her father's health becoming impaired a few years prior to the Civil War, in order that he might be near his daughter, Harriet, wife of Mr. Robert Crittenden, he returned to Frankfort and bought the home of Mr. William D. Reed on Main between Wilkinson and Washington Streets*¹ but lived only a few years to enjoy it.

At the beginning of the Civil War her only brother, George Bibb Burnley espoused the Southern cause and went South. Desiring to be near him, his mother with her two unmarried daughters, Patty and Lucy, sold their home and soon followed, remaining South until the war closed and throughout Miss Burnley's life no sentiment was ever dearer to her heart than the cause of the Confederacy.

With the loss in battle of her cherished brother and the already impaired fortunes that most Southerners sustained, they returned once more to Frankfort, a short time before the death of Mrs. John B. Bibb, when their uncle invited them to make their home with him. It is here that "Miss Patty" spent the last fifty years of her life, the most beloved of women, an aristocrat in the highest sense, of a time honored race, whose portraits by the finest masters hung about her. Herself a musician, her home was the rendezvous for poets, artists and musicians, all seeking her commendation, charming men and women, young and old, with her stately presence, her keen perceptions and wit, while with her delightful conversation, she combined the almost rarer art of listening. Her strong religious faith and love for the Episcopal Church were deep rooted.*²

It was remarked by one of Kentucky's most travelled and charming women, that she had rarely, if ever, been in any prominent social community throughout the country but that some especially representative citizen had inquired for "Miss Patty Burnley."*³

*¹Now owned by Mrs. Robert Pepper.

*²The late Mrs. Louise Welch Labrot was my source for most of my information concerning the life of Miss Burnley.

*³Mrs. Simon Bolivar Buckner.



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

*Home of Hon. John Jordan Crittenden, built about 1800
Birth place of Adm. John Crittenden Watson*

THE name of Crittenden in Kentucky stands parallel with that of Pinkney of South Carolina, Stuyvesant of New York or Adams of Massachusetts and no man was more honored by both State and Nation than HON. JOHN JORDAN CRITTENDEN. He survived his illustrious compeers Clay, Calhoun and Webster and at the time of his death had no peer in the Nation; and of whom it was said "preeminently advanced the glory and honor of his native Kentucky."

His father, Major John Crittenden, the progenitor of the family of that name in Kentucky, Missouri and Arkansas, was an officer in the Revolution and as Captain-Lieutenant, an original member of the Society of the Cincinnati, who at the close of the Revolution became one of the early pioneer settlers in Woodford County, Kentucky, in 1783. He married Judith Harris of Virginia and was the father of the four talented sons, John Jordan; Thomas T., Secretary of State of Kentucky under Governor Metcalfe and for many years Judge of the Federal District Court; Robert, who became Territorial Governor of Arkansas, was a leading lawyer and served that state in Congress; Henry C., who married Anne

Maria Allen and became the father of Col. William Logan Crittenden, who sacrificed his life in the Lopez expedition against Cuba (1850-51). When captured at Cardenas and ordered to turn his back to the enemy and kneel before the firing squad, refusing to be blindfolded, he replied: "A Kentuckian kneels to none except his God, and always dies facing his enemy," so with his own hand, he gave the signal for the volley of musketry, and died standing, facing the guns. His brother, Thomas Theodore, married Carrie Jackson of Frankfort and removed to Missouri, where he practiced law until elected Governor of that State and was twice a member of Congress. He too, must be added to my illustrious list, as for some years he supported himself by clerking in the general land office of Kentucky, while residing and studying Law with his uncle, John J. Crittenden, in Frankfort.

John Jordan Crittenden was born September 10, 1786 in Woodford County, Kentucky. He attended Washington Academy and graduated at William and Mary College. He studied law under the celebrated George M. Bibb and in his profession exhibited so rare gifts that he soon rose rapidly into public favor. Although, in his profession an orator of great persuasive powers, eloquence and magnetism, possessing that peculiar power of oratory that can charm the learned and the ignorant at the same time and though probably the greatest criminal lawyer of his day, he found politics much more congenial and devoted his life to public service.

He was Attorney-General of the Territory of Illinois 1809-11; was ten times elected to the Kentucky Legislature, being four times made speaker of the house.

Serving in the War of 1812, he was aid to Generals Ramsey, Hopkins and Shelby and while with the latter, rendered distinguished service at the battle of the Thames. He was in 1827 appointed U. S. District Attorney, but was removed after two years by President Jackson to whom he was radically opposed. He was Secretary of State of Kentucky; five times United States Senator, and twice Attorney General of the United States—appointments by William Henry Harrison and Millard Filmore. After the death of President Harrison, he retired to fill the unexpired term of Henry Clay in the United States Senate.

Having been elected by the Whig party, Governor of Kentucky 1848, he resigned after two years to accept the appointment in the cabinet of

Fillmore. There are still in existence interesting old bank notes on which are printed pictures of Governor Crittenden and his wife, nee, Maria Knox Innis.



In the Senate, he was the advocate of measures looking to the adjustment of difficulties between the states; was an ardent and outspoken supporter of Clay's Compromise Measures, and was the author of the celebrated "Crittenden Compromise;" President of the "Border State Convention" at Frankfort 1861, and although opposed to confiscation, the proclamation of the Emancipation and the enlistment of negro soldiers, he regarded these of minor importance and stood firmly for the Union. In 1861, he was elected to the Lower House of Congress and had just completed his term in that body when he died in Frankfort July 26, 1863.

He was married three times: first 1811 to Sarah O. Lee*¹ daughter of Major John Lee, one of the Incorporators and trustees of Transylvania University.

The eldest of his children, Ann Mary Crittenden, from early youth gave promise of her future career. She was but eleven years of age when General Lafayette arrived in Frankfort on May 9, 1825 and upon the occasion of an open air entertainment given the following day in his honor, she was lifted upon an elevation that she might read aloud an original and most dramatic poem written to him. There were two copies made of this and printed in gold letters on white satin—one for him and one to be kept for herself. She became scholarly in her attainments, translating a number of books for publication from both the French and German languages, besides being an authoress of ability and the biographer of her noted father. She married Chapman Coleman and through her

*¹By whom he had Ann Mary; George Bibb; Cornelia, who became the second wife of Rev. John Clark Young, President of Centre College, Danville, Ky.; Thomas Leonidas; Robert, who married Harriet Burnley; Eugenia, who died in youth, and Sallie Lee "Maria."

several daughters, was the ancestress of representative families of Kentucky.

Her son CHAPMAN COLEMAN, JR. who was at a German University when the Civil War broke out, returned to become a private in defense of States Rights and his native Southland. He was for twenty years First Secretary of the American Legation at Berlin, having been first appointed by President Grant; then Consul to Roubaix France. He served in the State Department at Washington and afterwards was for seven years Consul at Rome. Although the greater part of his life was spent in foreign countries, it was to Kentucky and this corner that he returned for his bride, Jane Swigert Hendrick (daughter of Dr. J. R. Hendrick) whose home was "The Terraces." This palatial colonial brick homestead was built by her maternal grandfather, Mr. Philip Swigert, in the spacious lot on the southeast corner of Wapping and Washington Streets, the garden of which is terraced down to the water's edge, the home today being occupied by the fifth generation.

Two of Mr. Crittenden's sons became distinguished during the Civil War. Like many another father of that period in Kentucky, he saw his house divided against itself. Receiving the communication that the two armies were assembling for battle in Tennessee and that a beloved son was a participant on either side, he as a member of Congress, secured a special permit and under a flag of truce, visited them both on the eve of battle.

The eldest, GEORGE BIBB CRITTENDEN, was educated under the celebrated Professor, B. B. Sayre and then graduated at West Point 1832, but resigned after a year of service to study law with his father and subsequently at Transylvania University. With many other Kentuckians, he was engaged in the war between Texas and Mexico, 1842, when they were captured and imprisoned for nearly a year at Matamoras and Mexico City. During this period the Mexicans issued an edict that a certain proportion of the prisoners should be shot, the decision being made by the drawing of white and black beans from a box. Young Crittenden as an officer, was among the first to draw and being successful slipped his bean to his intimate friend near by who had a wife and family at home, and for himself took the chance of a second draw, when again he was successful. Upon his release, a friend of his father's in Mexico City gave him a horse, saddle, bridle and blankets and money to return home, but seeing a comrade ill and more needy, he once more effaced self, giving the horse and equipment to him, and made his own way home with the others less fortunate. In 1846 he received an appointment as Captain

of Mounted Riflemen, later breveted Major for gallantry and served during the Mexican War under General Winfield Scott, participating in all of the battles from Vera Cruz to the capture of Mexico. He returned to the regular army and rose to the rank of Colonel by 1856 and saw service on the frontier until 1861, when his strong Southern convictions caused him to resign to enter the cause of the Confederacy, leaving the service with the rank of Major General Confederate States Army.

THOMAS LEONIDAS, the second son of John J. Crittenden, was also educated under Professor Sayre, but later studied law with his father and entered upon the practice with much promise. He too, served in the Mexican War and was Aide to General Zachary Taylor, to whom through his mother, he was related and was appointed by President Taylor, a Consul to Liverpool, England 1849-53. In 1861 he succeeded General Simon Bolivar Buckner as Inspector General of Kentucky, which office he vacated when appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers in the Union Army—was advanced to Major General and served to the close of the War. He retired to private life, but was afterwards commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel in the Regular Army, breveted Brigadier General 1867, remaining in the service until retired 1881 on account of age.

He married his step-sister Catherine Lucy Todd and his only child was the gallant young Lieutenant John J. Crittenden, 3rd, who though but twenty-one years of age, was on the staff of General Custer and killed with him in that fatal massacre. His remains with many of those noble dead, were afterwards with much ceremony, removed to that hallowed hill-top above Frankfort.

Although having been reared in the home of his father on the southwest corner of Main and Washington Streets, General Crittenden at one period of his married life, occupied the two story frame house on the northwest corner of Wilkinson and Main Streets, which is still standing, surrounded by extensive lawn and garden.

Sallie Lee, called "Maria" Crittenden, married Edward Howe Watson, and was the mother of REAR ADMIRAL JOHN CRITTENDEN WATSON who served in the United States Navy until retired at the age of sixty-two, with the rank of Rear Admiral.

During the Civil War he was Flag-Lieutenant on the Staff of Admiral Farragut on the Hartford and was present at the capture of Mobile Bay. He commanded a vessel in the Spanish-American War and was Naval Representative of the United States Government at the Coronation of

King Edward VII—a fine Naval Officer and most beloved by kindred and friends.

His wife was Elizabeth Thornton, a grand-daughter of Chief Justice, Harry Innis. Three of his sons are military officers of their country—Edward Howe, a Captain United States Navy; Thornton, a Colonel United States Army and Alexander Mackenzie, a Major in the United States Marine Corps.

Admiral Watson was born the 24h of August 1842, in the home of his honored grandfather, John J. Crittenden, where also was born his son, John J. Crittenden Watson Jr., who has served as Consul at several different foreign posts.*¹

Upon the marriage of Mr. Crittenden to the widow Todd, she removed to the Crittenden home with her several small Todds. Elizabeth Anne Todd married William Henry Watson, a brother of "Maria" Crittenden's husband, and here the step-sisters, inseparable, with their Watson families, eventually returned to live in this complicated family connection, in love and harmony unsurpassed in a family's history until their children were reared and married from their door.

Governor Crittenden's third wife, nee, Elizabeth Moss, had also been previously twice married; first to General Daniel Wilcox of the United States Army; and secondly to General William Ashly. With such deep affection was Mr. Crittenden held by his two sets of step children and step-grandchildren and so closely were they associated with his home and life, it is regretable that the lack of space prevents individual mention.

When we see the quaint old low two story brick house abutting on the street, with no particular architectural merit—save for the classic doorway, a noble example of Colonial design—and from the outer walls suggesting by no means a spacious interior, we feel that this dwelling must have been blessed by love, as were the loaves and fishes and made to go around. The house came into the possession of Mr. Crittenden when he removed to Frankfort in 1819, it having been built probably by Dr. Joseph Scott as it was occupied by him for many years. The land had once been the property of Aaron Burr, doubtless a speculative purchase in the early settling of Frankfort, through the intimate friendship of General Wilkenson.

When Daniel Webster and his family arrived in Frankfort on Friday, May 31, 1837, he like General LaFayette, was met a few miles out of the city by gentlemen on horseback and escorted to the home of Mr. Crittenden, where they visited until the following Monday, when they left for

*¹Other children of Admiral Watson are:—Anne Mary; Sarah Thornton; and Loyall Farragut.

Louisville. The citizen's of Frankfort of all parties united in giving them a hearty welcome and on Saturday a large barbecue, characteristic of the day, was prepared for them on the banks of the beautiful Elkhorn Creek. Mr. Webster's speech upon that occasion was long remembered with pride and pleasure.

On February 19, 1848, President-elect Zachary Taylor, on the eve of his innauguration, paid a visit to Governor Crittenden. Arriving by boat, he was met at the landing by the members of the Legislature, the old Mexican soldiers and many other citizens who escorted him to the mansion.

The semi-circular carriage step in front of this home was one of the two presented to Mr. Crittenden, it having been the door step of the first State Capitol.

There is a celebrated marble bust of Governor Crittenden, by Joel T. Hart, while portraits have been painted of him by the famous artists, Matthew Jouett and Moise and Fowler, the latter always painting together.

C ONTEMPORANEOUS with John J. Crittenden, the gifted Moreheads and Robert Letcher, was HON. THOMAS METCALFE, born in Fauquier County Virginia, March 20, 1780.

The first of the family in this country, John Metcalfe, emigrated from Yorkshire England and settled in Virginia. He was a graduate of Cambridge and for many years after his arrival, was the principal of a Seminary.*¹ His son, John, after serving as a Captain in the Revolutionary War, emigrated to Nicholas County Kentucky 1785. He was married three times, his last wife, the widow of Eli Chinn, nee Rhoda Dent, of Maryland, having been the mother of my sketch.

Thomas Metcalfe received an ordinary English education and at the age of sixteen owing to the limited finances of his father, the old soldier, pioneer and father of sixteen children, he was apprenticed to an elder brother and became a stone mason. It is even claimed that he came to Frankfort and worked on the Governor's mansion, which he eventually occupied. His inherent intellect and fine public spirit was destined for other things and he was soon recognized as a dominant factor in the local affairs of his community, when in 1812, he was elected to the Kentucky Legislature from Nicholas County and re-elected for several terms.

He raised a company of Volunteers in 1813 and fought gallantly at Fort Meigs. Five years later, elected to Congress, he was continuously re-elected until 1828, when he became Governor of Kentucky as the candidate of the National Republican Party. He once more served in the Legislature and as President of the State Board of Internal Improvements, and subsequently filled the unexpired term of John J. Crittenden, in the United States Senate. It was his speech at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, which nominated William Henry Harrison for the Presidency.

He possessed great force of character and was one of the most eloquent men of his day. Metcalfe County was named in his honor. The position of Secretary of War was offered him, but on account of failing health, he declined it and spent the latter years of his life at his old home "Forest Retreat," Nicholas County, Kentucky where he died of cholera in 1855.

He was proud of his early struggles and delighted in being called, "The Old Stone Hammer."

His private residence while in Frankfort was on Main near Washington Street and his life and interests closely associated with his distinguished neighbors.

*¹He married Diana Gratkins of Virginia.

To the Morehead family alone, was given the honor of boasting three Governors of Kentucky, two of whom, James T. and Charles S. Morehead, are subjects of my sketch, while General Simon Bolivar Buckner (whose mother was Elizabeth Ann Morehead, first cousin of the other two) officer in the United States Army; distinguished General in the Confederate States Army; eminent Governor of Kentucky and nominee for the vice-Presidency with General John M. Palmer, 1896, was, I regret to say, at no time a resident of this inspired corner—hence can not be dwelt upon as his noble record deserves.

A fourth member of this family connection, John Motley Morehead, removed to North Carolina and was elected Governor of that state in 1845 and President of the old National Whig Convention which nominated Zachary Taylor for President.

The first of the family in this country was Charles Morehead who emigrated from Scotland and settled in the Northern neck of Virginia 1630. His great-great-grandson, HON. JAMES TURNER MOREHEAD, was born in Bullitt County, Kentucky May 24, 1797, the son of Armstead Morehead and a Miss Latham.

After graduating at Transylvania University, he studied law under Judge H. P. Broadnax and subsequently John J. Crittenden and in 1828 was elected to the Legislature, serving several terms. He was a delegate to Baltimore to the convention which nominated Henry Clay for the Presidency and was elected Lieutenant-Governor of Kentucky, 1832, but on the death of Governor Breathitt two years later, was inaugurated Governor, filling that position most creditably for the remaining two years. Returning to the practice of Law in Frankfort, he was again elected to the Legislature. He was appointed by that body, 1839, a Commissioner to the State of Ohio, to secure the passage of a law protecting the slave property of Kentuckians. From 1841-47, he took a high position in the United States Senate, being a most excellent debater and a graceful and fluent speaker. He was a lawyer of much ability, a scholarly and painstaking writer who gave valuable contributions to the biographies and adventures of the early pioneer settlers of Kentucky and added materially to preserving the early history of our state.

He was twice married;*¹ three of his sons fought for the cause of the Confederacy, while his daughter Lucy, as widow of Judge Bruce Porter, was twice appointed by President Grant, Postmistress at Louisville, Ky. His youngest and only surviving child, Albert Hodges More-

*¹He married first Susan Roberts of Kentucky, had, 1. Robert; 2. Joseph; 3. Lucy; 4. James. He married second, Lavinia Espy of Columbus, Ohio, had. 5. Theodore; 6. Maria; 7. Josiah; 8. Henry; 9. Frank; 10. Albert Hodges.

head, is a Professor at Baylor University, Waco Texas.

Having died at his home in Covington, Ky., 1854, a year later his remains were brought to Frankfort and interred with great ceremony. General John Marshall Harlan (afterwards Justice of the United States Supreme Court) was Chief Marshal and many visitors from throughout the state were present.

A portrait of him painted by Matthew Jouett, was presented by his grand-daughter to the Kentucky Historical Society at Frankfort.

For intermittent periods of time his residence was in several different homes of this corner of the town.



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

*Home of Governor Charles Slaughter Morehead,
N. E. Cor. Main & Washington Streets*

His first cousin CHARLES SLAUGHTER MOREHEAD, born July 7, 1802 in Nelson County Kentucky, was the only son of Charles Morehead who married Miss Slaughter of Virginia and who fought under Light Horse Harry Lee's command, being at the Surrender of Cornwallis. He was frequently in both House and Senate of the Kentucky Legislature.

Charles Slaughter, like his distinguished cousin, was a graduate of

Transylvania University. He was many times a member of the Kentucky Legislature and often made speaker of the House. While Attorney General of Kentucky, under his cousin's Gubernatorial Administration, he with Judge Mason Brown, wrote a Digest of the Statute Laws of Kentucky. He served one term in Congress; was elected Governor of Kentucky 1855, making Judge Brown his Secretary of State.

Having been appointed a delegate to the Peace Conference at Washington 1861 and subsequently at the Border State Convention which met at Frankfort, he in every possible way, used his influence to avert the Civil War. In September, without Charge or Warrant, he was arrested on suspicion of favoring the secession of Kentucky and was secretly conveyed across the Ohio—thence incarcerated in Fort LaFayette, New York, for a year. He lost much property during the War.

He married Margaret Levy of Woodford County, Kentucky and his son Franklin C, was named for the County which had given him such an overwhelming majority during his Gubernatorial race.*²

His early home in Frankfort, a square two story brick house of colonial design, with a garden of flowers at the side, is still to be seen on the northeast corner of Main and Washington Streets—diagonally from the home of John J. Crittenden. It was built by Mr. John Harvie of Virginia, and occupied by him and his family for many years.

Adjoining these grounds on Washington Street stood the Episcopal Parsonage, occupied by Bishop Benjamin Bosworth Smith. When consecrated Bishop, he was made the first Bishop of Kentucky in 1832, he was Superintendent of Public Instruction in Kentucky and at the head of the Common School System 1840-42. In 1868, upon the death of Bishop Hopkins, he became Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States. Having removed to New York City, he died there May 31, 1884 at the age of ninety years. His three daughters, Louisa, Mrs. Willis Green; Virginia and Elizabeth—all lived to extreme old age and were long residents of this neighborhood, the latter having died there at the age of ninety-eight years.

*²His children were,—1. Amanda, who married Samuel Walker; 2. William; 3. John; 4. Franklin C.

WHEN the old citizens of Frankfort recall the skillful violin music, the wit and humor and delightful anecdotes of HON. ROBERT PERKINS LETCHER, born February 10, 1788, in Goochland County, Virginia, it is not hard to realize that he was the son of Stephen Giles and Betsy (Perkins) Letcher, the grandson of Giles and Hannah (Hughes) Letcher, who emigrated to Virginia from the North of Ireland, both having been of Welsh decent. It is recorded in family documents that the Leach or Letcher family bore three crowns on their Coat of Arms, it having been granted by Edward III to a member of the family living at the time in Berkshire, who had entertained three Kings in his Castle at one time.

Removing to Kentucky with his father in early youth and after serving in the War of 1812, Mr. Letcher studied law under Hon. Humphrey Marshall, and practiced in Garrard County Kentucky. He represented that county several times in the Legislature and in 1822 was elected to Congress, serving most creditably twelve years, as a firm and consistent Whig and as Speaker of the House. From there he was again elected to the Kentucky Legislature and made Speaker of the House, when in 1840 he was elected Governor of Kentucky—one of his last official acts being the appointment of the first Thanksgiving day proclaimed in the State, September 26, 1844. In 1849 he was appointed by Zachary Taylor Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico, where he remained three years.

Later he made a race for Congress, but was defeated by the Distinguished John Cabell Breckinridge.*¹ He was an able lawyer and devoted to the best interests of his state. A county was named in his honor.

It was during his administration as Governor that the Legislature of Kentucky appropriated a sum of money to remove the remains of Daniel and Rebecca Boone from Missouri to Frankfort, when nearly every county of the state, besides many Southern and Western States were represented at the ceremonies on September 13, 1845. They were held at their final resting place in that picturesque of all cemeteries—on the hill top above Frankfort—which commands a view of the spires and towers of the classic old town below and the splendid panorama of river

*¹General John Cabell Breckinridge was born near Lexington, Ky., 1821. He was a Major in the Mexican War; twice in Congress, and as Vice-President with Buchanan, was the youngest man who ever held that position. He resigned his position in the United States Senate, where he had taken a high position as an orator and supporter of Crittenden's Compromise Bill, and threw himself into the Southern cause, being appointed Brigadier-General; he was also Vice-President of the Confederacy, and one of the most revered and distinguished officers of the South. From his wonderful voice and command of language, he was one of the greatest orators that Kentucky ever claimed.



Caufield & Shook, Photographers

The Daniel Boone Monument, tablets by Launetz. With glimpse of valley below

and vale wending their way for miles beyond in superb and matchless scenery. There was a brilliant military procession; the orator of the day was John J. Crittenden. These burials in the new State Cemetery, were but the beginning of a long procession of illustrious dead who have been laid to rest near by—

“Nor shall your glory be forgot,
Where Fame her record keeps,
Or honor points the hallowed spot
Where valor proudly sleeps.*²

On the northwest corner of Washington and Wapping Streets stands

*²This immortal poem, the “Bivouac of the Dead, by Theodore O’Hara, was written for and read at the ceremonies when the remains of the Kentucky soldiers who fell at Buena Vista, were brought to Frankfort in 1850, and interred in the State Cemetery. Soon after the close of the Civil War, its verses were cast upon iron slabs and placed in our National Cemeteries.

Colonel O’Hara was born near Danville, Ky., 1820, but was long a resident of Franklin County. In the Mexican War, he was brevetted Major for gallantry at Contreras. He was afterwards a field officer in the Lopez Expedition to Cuba. At the beginning of the Civil War, he was made Colonel of the Twelfth Alabama regiment C. S. A., and subsequently served on the staff of Generals John C. Breckinridge and Albert Sidney Johnson, the latter having died in his arms at Shiloh. Colonel O’Hara having died in Alabama 1867, by a special act of the Legislature, his remains were brought back to Frankfort and interred near his military colleagues of the Mexican War.

the broad two story brick house with its central hall, such as almost universally prevails around this block, and many distinguished guests were entertained within its walls.*¹ It is of two-fold interest, having been the home to which Governor Letcher retired from the Governor's Mansion and owned for the last sixteen years of his life. His widow, nee, Charlotte Robertson,*² survived him here many years, but at her death, it became the property of JUDGE WILLIAM LINDSAY, a profound lawyer and great jurist. By a historian it was said. "The history of Jurisprudence in Kentucky, dignified as it was by many exalted names, finds



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

Home of Governor Robert P. Letcher, and later of Judge William Lindsay

few whose powers and labors were more beneficent, fruitful and cumulative than William Lindsay.”*³

Born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, son of Andrew and Sarah Gilmore Davidson, and grandson of James Lindsay and Nancy McCampbell, of Lanarkshire, Scotland. After a liberal education, he removed to Kentucky, settling in Hickman County as a teacher, during which time he studied law and was admitted to the Bar at Clinton, where he continued

*¹House now owned by Dr. J. S. Collins, whose son Paul, gave his life in the World War.

*²Gov. Letcher married first, Mary Eden Eppes.

*³E. Polk Johnson.

with flattering success until the Civil War, when his strong Southern convictions led him to join the Confederate forces as a Lieutenant. Serving throughout the War, he was eventually made Captain of the Tennessee Regular Infantry and remained with the Second Kentucky Brigade until parolled as a prisoner of War, 1865. Resuming the practice of the Law, he was shortly afterwards elected to the State Senate, serving with such credit, that before the close of his term, he was elected to the Court of Appeals at thirty-five years of age and at forty-one, became its Chief-Justice, acquiring great distinction on the bench. He displayed a rare combination of fine talents, being a close analytical thinker, fine debater, mingling wit and humor with logical reasoning; of versatile powers and almost inexhaustable resources; an indefatigable worker, cheerful and sunny "a giant in stature and intellect."

From the bench, he retired to the practice of the law in Frankfort for a number of years, until appointed by President Benjamin Harrison, a commissioner-at-Large for the Chicago Exposition and subsequently selected as one of the five Commissioners sent by the United States Government to Europe in the interest of the World's Columbian Exposition. He and his wife who accompanied him, were received with distinction in European cities. While still abroad, the Democratic Party again elected him a member of the Kentucky State Senate. The President also, appointed him a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the appointment being confirmed by the Senate but he declined the office.

John G. Carlisle having resigned from the United States Senate, to accept the appointment of Secretary of the Treasury under Cleveland, Judge Lindsay was elected to fill the unexpired term and the following year re-elected for a full term of six years. During that stirring period, 1896, when the "Free coinage of silver sixteen to one," was advocated by a great political party, among its staunchest opponents were these two great Democrats, John G. Carlisle, Secretary of the Treasury and William Lindsay, then United States Senator; they were renowned for their eloquence, their influence being far reaching.

He was a member during his entire service of the Judiciary Committee and gave unqualified support to the administration of Cleveland.

Judge Lindsay's Senatorial office expiring March 4, 1901, the following year he was appointed by McKinley, a Commissioner to the St. Louis Exposition. From Washington, he removed to New York City forming a partnership of Lindsay, Palmer and Calish. Upon his arrival, the Legislature of Albany invited him there to be welcomed as a citizen of New York, after which he was entertained at lunch by the Chief

Justice of the State, while the ladies of Albany gave an evening reception in his honor.

In New York City he was the Vice-President of both the "Southern Society" and the "Kentucky Society," and Governor of "The Virginians." He was an officer of the Clan of Lindsay of Scotland and related to the Earls of Crawford and Belcarres.

In his great speeches questions Constitutional and Political were argued with great force of logic and clearness of reasoning, while his speech before the American Bar Association at Buffalo 1899, "The Power of the United States to acquire Foreign Territory" was the first notable public address defining the acquisition of foreign territory and carried his fame to the other hemisphere.

His wife Henrietta Semple, was the mother of his only surviving child, Marion, wife of Mr. Frank O. Swere, of Cincinnati.*¹. After Mrs. Lindsay's death he married Eleanor Holmes, daughter of Dr. George N. Holmes, Chief Surgeon in General Armstrong's Division of the Confederate Army.



The last home of Judge William Lindsay, built upon the grounds once occupied by Hon. James Harlan and Justice John Marshall Harlan, adjoining the home of Adm. Rodman

Judge Lindsay eventually purchased of Captain Harry I. Todd, the handsome house and extensive grounds on the northeast corner of Wapping and Wilkinson streets, where his widow still resides. After seven years at the New York Bar, because of his declining health and the great simplicity of his nature, he felt the call of his more tranquil Frankfort environment and once more returned home to begin the practice of law, which continued until his death on October 15, 1909.

One of the most intimate associates of Judge Lindsay's life and in his latter years a member of his household, was CAPTAIN THOMAS C. JONES, of Daviess County Kentucky, a man of most amiable and gentle nature.

The first to enlist in Company A of the First Kentucky Cavalry, C. S. A, he became a gallant Captain, at which time he sustained an injury that caused permanent lameness for the rest of his life.

He had removed to Frankfort as Clerk of the Court of Appeals for six years, when he was appointed by Cleveland, Consul to Funchall, Madeira Islands, where he served eighteen years. The remainder of his life was spent in the home of Judge and Mrs. Lindsay, the latter his neice. Judge Lindsay survived him but seven months.

*1The two other children by Henrietta Semple Lindsay, Judge Lindsay's second wife, were Paul, born August 16, 1869, died April 22, 1878; and Henry Semple, born April, 1882, died December, 1882. The first wife of Judge Lindsay was Elizabeth Swan Semple (elder sister of Henrietta) whose two children were Ada, born October, 1865, died September, 1866, and Swan Semple, born in January, 1867, died the following October.

ASSOCIATED with Robert P. Letcher in his administration as Governor, was HON. JAMES HARLAN, born June 22 1800. He was Commonwealth's attorney for four years; served two terms in Congress from Boyle County Kentucky, during the last being chairman of the Committee for investigating Defalcations; was Presidential elector on the Whig ticket, 1840; was Secretary of State under Governor Letcher; served two terms in the Legislature; appointed Attorney General of Kentucky and was United States District Attorney when he died February 18, 1863.

Upon his appointment as Secretary of State of Kentucky, 1840, he removed to Frankfort, where for a number of years he occupied the large three story frame house then standing in the spacious grounds on the northwest corner of Wapping and Wilkinson Streets, which has long since been supplanted by the elegant home last owned by Judge William Lindsay.*¹

Here was reared one of the most striking figures ever on the Supreme Bench at Washington—his distinguished son, JOHN MARSHALL HARLAN, prophetically named in honor of the great Chief Justice of the United States.

Born June 1, 1833, he was but seven years of age when he removed from Danville, Kentucky. Receiving his early education under Professor B. B. Sayre, he graduated in letters at Centre College under the Presidency of Reverend John C. Young, D. D. L. L. D. After studying law with his father, he graduated at Transylvania University under Chief Justice, George Robertson and Thomas A. Marshall and entered upon his profession at Frankfort. In 1858, he was elected County Judge of Franklin, holding the position but one year, when he became the Whig or opposition candidate for Congress in the Ashland District and after a contest which attracted the attention of the entire country, he was defeated by the Democratic candidate, Colonel William A. Simms, of Bourbon County, Kentucky.

Upon the breaking out of the Civil War, he recruited and organized the Tenth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. Having served for some time as Commander of his brigade, he was nominated by President Lincoln 1863, for promotion to the rank of Brigadier General. At this promising moment in his military career, the death of his father necessitated his resigning from the army to return home in Frankfort. Shortly afterwards, he was elect-

*¹Built by Captain Harry I. Todd.

ed by an immense majority of the Union Party, Attorney General of the State of Kentucky; yet he was twice the unsuccessful candidate for Governor. And from the ending of the Civil War, there was never a Republican Governor of Kentucky until the election of William O. Bradley 1895, a period of over thirty years.

President Hayes appointed him in 1877, one of the Louisiana Commission on the part of the Government to bring about some amicable plan of adjusting the unfortunate political status of that state. A foreign appointment was also offered him, but he declined it. On November 29, 1877, President Hayes appointed him an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, which position he held until his death in 1911, extending over a period of thirty-four years, his length of service having been exceeded by only two others—Chief Justice John Marshall and Associate Justice, Stephen J. Field; and at the time of his death, he was the oldest man on the bench. He married Miss M. F. Shanklin of Indiana, a woman of great beauty and charm, who survives him, with several children.*¹

Mr. Justice Harlan had a most genial and delightful personality; was of commanding appearance, being powerful and admirably built. It was said of him in his youth, that his appearance alone was worth five thousand dollars a year to his profession.

*¹His children were,—1. Edith, who married Mr. Childs of Chicago, deceased; 2. Reverend Richard Davenport; 3. John M., Jr., of Chicago; 4. James, of Washington City; 5. Laura; 6. Ruth.



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

Early Home of Hon. George Graham Vest. Home of the late Mr. John Brown Lindsey

ANOTHER of Frankfort's brilliant sons and a resident of this celebrated neighborhood was the distinguished GEORGE GRAHAM VEST, born December 6, 1830, son of John Jay and Harriet (Graham) Vest, of Virginia ancestry of Scotch Irish origin.

Receiving his early education under Professor B. B. Sayre, he later graduated at Centre College, Danville, Kentucky 1848, and at Transylvania University 1853, the latter year removing to Missouri, where he practiced law. He was Presidential Elector 1860; a member of the Missouri House of Representatives 1860-61; of the Confederate House of Representatives two years and of the Confederate Senate one. For twenty-five years he served in the United States Senate—until his death, 1903.

He married Sallie E. Sneed of Danville Kentucky and had three children.

Mr. Vest was a lawyer of the highest ability and an unquestioned leader in National Council; a quick, witty and resourceful debater and took a high place in the Senate on all great National questions. Yet the great versatility of his talents was strongly illustrated in his pleadings before

the jury when he composed the "Tribute to the Dog," which has long since become a classic. (In Baldwin's Law Bulletin we find the following:) The occasion was the trial over the killing of a dog which was held in a Missouri town when he was a young lawyer.

Senator Vest appeared for the plaintiff, while Senator Francis M. Cochrell, then a county practitioner, represented the defendant.

Young Vest took no interest in the testimony and made no notes, but at the close of the case arose and in a soft voice, made the following address:

"Gentlemen of the Jury: The best friend a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has, he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us, may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads.

The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog. A man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert, he remains. When riches take wings and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens.

"If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him, to guard him against danger, to fight against his enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes his master in its embrace and his body is laid away, there by the graveside, will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad, but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even in death."

"Upon the conclusion of his remarks, there were but few dry eyes in

the audience. The case was submitted without further argument, and the jury promptly returned a verdict for the plaintiff."

This is regarded as one of the most beautiful tributes ever paid to a dumb animal.

Though Mr. Vest was born in the home of his grandfather, Mr. George Graham, on the South Side of Frankfort, adjoining the bridge on the spot where now stands the Y. M. C. A. building, at an early age and for a number of years thereafter, we find him residing on the southwest corner of Wapping and Washington Streets, in a two story brick house, (the central hall and four front rooms, above and below), having been owned by his father. This house was later sold and conveyed to Mrs. Lucy Price Weisiger (widow of Captain Daniel Weisiger) and her son-in-law, Mr. Thomas Noble Lindsey, and since which time the house has been materially enlarged.

Mr. Lindsey was an able lawyer, member of the Legislature and of the Constitutional Convention of 1849; President of the Farmer's Bank of Kentucky; a gifted and versatile writer and a fine citizen. Of the large family who were reared here,*¹ his eldest son, General Daniel Weisiger Lindsey, a lawyer of Frankfort, was during the Civil War, Colonel of the Twenty-second Volunteer Infantry, United States Army, and was in 1863 appointed Inspector General of Kentucky, which gave him the rank of Major General and supervisor over all of the Union Military forces of the State. Having married Catherine Fitch, he removed to the South Side of Frankfort, where his widow and several children still reside.

The homestead has been retained by the second son, the late Mr. John Brown Lindsey, also a prominent lawyer of Frankfort, who married Helen Talbot and it is still the home of six of their children, their daughter, Maria, being one of the best known musicians in the state.

Here again have been four generations in an unbroken line of inheritance, even unto the fine old portraits and mahogonies, while the garden walk through rows of blooming flowers, leads back to the water's edge.

*¹Other children of Thomas Noble Lindsey and Isabella Price Weisiger were:—Maria, married John R. Thomas, of Lebanon, Ky.; Lucy, married Dr. J. McClusky Blayney, D. D.; Thomas, married Stella Rawson; Mary Belle, married Henry D. Fitch; Joseph Weisiger, married Maria Crittenden Watson.



Mrs. Daniel Weisiger



Capt. Daniel Weisiger

JUST across Washington Street from here, and facing the residence of Mr. Justice Todd on Wapping, is one of the most choice situations for a home to be found in the city. The grounds comprise nearly a block, with its garden terraced back to the river, while it has been of many fold interest in the chronicles of Frankfort's National servants.

In the annals of the town's early days—among its largest land owners and public spirited men, whose moral character was above suspicion and integrity proverbial—on every leaf is written the name of CAPTAIN DANIEL WEISIGER. A city trustee 1790; for ten years clerk of the County Court; of committees to build a new Court House, new bridge, new Capitol; director of the first Bank ever chartered in Kentucky (1809) and was in some way connected with every public improvement in the town itself or county of Franklin.

Born in Virginia May 18, 1763, he was the third of his name in this country, the first having emigrated from the Netherlands and settled in Virginia 1745.

Ranking as a Captain in Northwestern Expeditions against the Indians, he eventually with his company, wended his way to Lexington, Kentucky, about 1790, where Lucy Price, to join her pioneer parents, had preceded him. Indeed, it is recorded in family records, that shortly after his arrival, while lying upon his bed in the Tavern suffering from a slight illness, his young Lieutenant said "Captain Weisiger, come to the window, here

is something to cure your headache.” To his surprise, it was the beautiful girl whom he well remembered having seen seated on the bank of a river, dressed for a dinner party back in Virginia in 1783-6, when he and his company had forded the stream, but whom he had failed to meet “being ordered that day to march with his men to fight Indians—possibly the British.”

They were married May 15, 1791 and located in Frankfort, occupying for several years a two story house built of hewn logs, that once stood in the lot above mentioned. Here was born Joseph Weisiger, the first white male child born in Frankfort.*¹

Through Captain Weisiger’s intelligence and industry, he amassed a handsome estate, when he eventually removed to his massive dwelling on



Rear view of "The Terraces," as seen from the river. The home of Mrs. Chapman Coleman and of Mr. John Buford Hendrick

Main and Anne Streets. But after some years, alas, through the great generosity of his nature, much of his property was swept from him to pay the debts of his friends for whom he had gone security and his wide doors were thrown open for a tavern long known as "The Weisiger House," famed for its excellency and as the houser of many distinguished guests. It sheltered LaFayette on his memorable visit, and it was here that the ball was given in his honor, Captain Weisiger's name heading the list of twenty on invitation. For a decade or more after his death in 1829, his widow with the grace and courage for which she was revered, continued the work. They were the ancestors of a number of most representative families throughout Kentucky and other states.

Following the tenancy of the Daniel Weisigers, DR. JOHN MITCHELL SCOTT, about the latter part of the eighteenth century, weather boarded the logs and constructed a larger and more modern two story dwelling. It is upon this ground, where once stood the homes of Weisiger and Scott, that now stands "The Terraces," the stately residence built by Mr. Philip Swigert.

Dr. Scott was a surgeon in the Revolutionary War—commision signed by Washington. Later with the rank of Colonel, he served in the War of 1812.

When taken ill at Vincennes, Indiana, and longing to be home, should death be imminent, his soldiers carried him on a litter, swimming the Ohio River, and down through the trackless forest they brought him, where no road had yet penetrated.

Colonel Scott was especially interesting to Frankfort as the father of Mrs. Arabella Welch whose five charming daughters were for so many years a prominent part of Frankfort's social and religious circles. One of these daughters was Louise Welch, the late Mrs. Leopold Labrot, whose residence, for nearly forty years, was on Main and Wilkinson Streets.*² Her latch string forever up, her friends of all ages, came and went, charmed by her wit and brilliantly cultivated mind, or soothed by her gentle presence—a presence so quiet and yet so strong and lasting in its imprint.

She died in France in her eightieth year—her husband's France that she had so longed to see.

*¹Other children were,—1. Daniel; 2. Samuel, married Ann Elizabeth Cowan; 3. Anne, married Col. Adams, moved to Miss.; 4. Lucy, married Judge Wm. Roper; 5. Elizabeth, married Robert Alexander; 6. Emiline, married Jacob Swigert; 7. Mary Bell, married Col. John Slaughter; Isabella Price, married Thomas Noble Lindsey.

*²Other daughters of Mrs. Welch were,—Catherine Davis, married Alexander Grant; Mary Welch, married Edward Hensly; Elizabeth Welch, married Torbert Coryelle; Arabella Welch, married Edward Payson Bryan.



Underwood & Underwood, Photographers

After the surrender of the High Seas Fleet, King George accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Admiral Beatty, came aboard the battleship, New York, to join Admirals Simms and Rodman.

LAST on the list of the boasted progeny of this inspired corner, is ADMIRAL HUGH RODMAN, a National and Inter-national figure in the late World War. As Commander of the Battleship Division of our Naval Fleet, co-operating with the British Grand-fleet under Sir David Beatty who received the final surrender on November 21, 1918, of the whole of the German's High Sea Fleet—a surrender which on so gigantic a scale has no precedent in Naval History.

Admiral Rodman was born January 6, 1859—the youngest child of Dr. Hugh Rodman a prominent physician of Frankfort. His mother, nee, Susan Anne Barbour, was a woman of fine intellect and force of character; a descendant of the prominent Virginia families of Barbour, Pendleton and Taylor, while of the latter a lineal descendant of two of the sons of no less a person than Colonel George Taylor of Orange County, Virginia, who sent ten of his eleven sons into the Revolutionary War, nine of whom were commissioned officers of either Army or Navy.

The stories of Admiral Rodman's childhood in the town of his nativity are reminiscent of his great love for fishing and hunting; of his youthful pranks, and an irresistible tendency to wit and fun making, the latter characteristic, so evidenced by the camera even in the presence of King George V. of Great Britain.

He was created a Knight Commander of The Order of The Bath by

King George V. The investiture took place on board "The Queen Elizabeth," the Flagship of the Grand Fleet, July 25th, 1918.

His decorations by other countries are: Grand Cordan of the Order of Leopold II of Belgium; Order of The Rising Sun, Japan; Commander of the Legion of Honor, France; Medal de la Solidaridad, Panama; First Order El Merite, Chile; Order of El Sol, Peru. He also received the Distinguished Service Medal from the United States Navy in the World War; the Dewey Medal for service at the Battle of Manila Bay, May 1, 1898; the Spanish War Medal and the Victory Medal; and two from the "Sons of American Revolution," one each for service in Spanish and World War.

Upon his return to this country at the close of the World War, he was elevated to the rank of a full Admiral, and made Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet.

In July 1921, he was appointed by Warren G. Harding, Minister and Envoy Extraordinary to represent the United States Government in Lima, at the Centennial celebration of the Declaration of Independence of Peru.

He married Elizabeth Ruffin, daughter of the celebrated Professor



W. B. Oelza, Photographer

Birth place of Admiral Hugh Rodman, built by Mr. Lucas Brodhead

Burwell Bassett Sayre, from whom so many noted men in this locality received their college preparation—and a sister of Virginia Sayre, who had married the Admiral's eldest brother, Dr. William Barbour Rodman, a physician of great skill and brilliancy—who first recognized that pneumonia is contagious. He was long a resident of this square, and whose son, Commander Samuel Sayre Rodman, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy, was in Command of a Base Hospital at Gibraltar in the World War.

The birthplace of the Admiral is a broad two story brick house, the central one of the three homes on the north side of Wapping Street. This was later sold by his mother to GENERAL FAYETTE HEWITT, and occupied by him and his brother, Virgil and family for a quarter of a century or more. General Hewitt was a gallant officer in the Confederate States Army; son of Robert and Elizabeth Chastain Hewitt, who removed from Bedford County Virginia 1829. During the Civil War, General Hewitt spent much time organizing the Confederate Mail System in the South and was assistant Adjutant-General under Davis. He was staff officer under Generals John C. Breckinridge and Ben Hardin Helm, and participated in many bloody battles, having three horses killed under him, and distinguished himself as a gallant, daring and fearless soldier.

In 1857, he was appointed by Governor Stevenson, Quartermaster General of Kentucky, serving through two administrations. He was also State Auditor for two terms, resigning to become President of The State National Bank at Frankfort, which position he held until his death. His fine ability and large administrative skill, uprightness of character and generosity of nature, made him one of the most valuable men of his State.

His brother, Virgil, was Adjutant of the Sixth Regiment of Kentucky Infantry, C. S. A. in the brigade of General Joseph Lewis.

THE MOST recent distinction to which this corner lays claim is the appointment by President Harding of DR. JOHN GLOVER SOUTH, as Minister to Panama.

He was born in Frankfort, Kentucky, January 23, 1873 and as the son of Colonel Samuel South, C. S. A.*¹ and Malvry Blackwell Jett, his wife, is of a family that dates its ancestry back to early pioneer settlers of Kentucky. He is the great-great-grandson of Major John South, an officer of the Revolutionary War, in command of Boonsboro 1783, and a member of the first Kentucky Legislature, and of Captain William Bryant, founder of the historic Bryant's Station, who married a sister of Daniel Boone.

Dr. South was educated at Dudley Institute, Excelsior Institute, the University of Arkansas and the Medical Department of the University of Louisville, Kentucky, where he received his degree of M. D. in 1897. He has practiced medicine in Frankfort since his graduation, with great success.

In 1899 he had charge of the Anti-small pox campaign in this part of Kentucky. While President of the Kentucky State Board of Health from 1907-1921, he was also President of the State Medical Association, being the only man that has held these two positions at the same time.

In 1904, Mr. South married Christine Duncan Bradley, only child of William O. Bradley, former Governor of Kentucky and United States Senator.

For upwards of fifteen years, the residence of Dr. and Mrs. South has been in the historic grounds of the "Old Love House," at the intersection of Wilkinson and Wapping Streets, where the river makes its bend around their garden.

Having shown what the members of the past generations have done in service to their State and Country, it is with singular pride that the name of LIEUTENANT-COLONEL EDGAR ERKSINE HUME, MEDICAL CORPS, U. S. A., is added as a successor to the distinguished men who have gone before him. Linked to this historic square by intermittent sojourns, in spite of the manifold activities which have taken him far afield, he is still regarded as a component part of Frankfort's contribution to the Nation's history. His brilliant services in the World War have brought him recognition not only from America, but every land he touched.

A direct descendant of the Humes of Wedderburn Castle, Scotland, he was born December 26, 1889, in Frankfort, Kentucky, the only son*²

*¹He received the Confederate Medal of Honor for gallantry at Chicamauga. There were only forty medals awarded by the Confederate Government.

*²Eleanor, the only daughter married Henry Offutt.

of Dr. Enoch Edgar Hume and Mary Ellen South,*¹ his wife, and from whom he inherited the characteristics of intellect, kindness and tenacity of purpose.

His father served his State with the vertiable spirit of the "Doctor of the Old School," honored and beloved by the entire community, an example and heritage impossible to have entirely resisted. He was also a member of the Kentucky Legislature and Mayor of Frankfort.

The young Doctor received his B. A. and M. A. from Centre College, Danville, Kentucky; M. D. from Johns Hopkins University 1913, and was on the Staff of the Johns Hopkins Hospital 1913-14. He attended the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich 1914, and Royal University of Rome 1915, being a member of the Relief Expedition after the Earthquake in the Abruzzi, Italy in January the same year, receiving Earthquake Medal in Silver for same. At this time, he was mentioned in the Ambassador's dispatches to the State Department.*²

He was First Lieutenant in the Army Medical Reserve Corps 1916, and Honor Graduate at the Army Medical School 1917, when he became First Lieutenant in the Medical Corps and was promoted through the various grades, attaining the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel 1918. In 1917, he served on the Mexican Border and was afterwards on duty in the office of the Surgeon General of the Army at Washington, (Major General William Crawford Gorgas) 1917-18. In 1918 he was made the Commanding Officer of United States Army Base Hospitals with the Royal Italian Army, War Zone Italy. He was on temporary duty with No. 12 General Hospital, British Expeditionary Force, France and with the American Centres at Toul, Vittel, Bazoilles-sur-Meuse, Contrexeville, LaFoché, Chaumont, Tours, Paris and Rouen, 1918. As American Red Cross Commissioner for Serbia 1919-20 he had charge of all the activities in Serbia, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Macedonia, Northern Greece, Eastern Albania, Eastern Montenegro, the Banat and with the Allied Army of Occupation in Hungary; also in charge of relief for the Russian, Polish, Lithuanian and Czecho-Slovak refugees in the Balkans.

He was Commanding Officer of the United States Army First Corps Area Laboratory at Fort Banks, Massachusetts, 1920-22, receiving C. P. H. from the School of Public Health of Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology 1921 and D. T. M. from the School of Tropical Medicine of Harvard University 1922. At present he is again on duty in the office of the Surgeon General of the Army.

*¹Sister of Dr. John South.

*²Thomas Nelson Page, the Ambassador at this time, had been a frequent visitor to this corner in Frankfort.

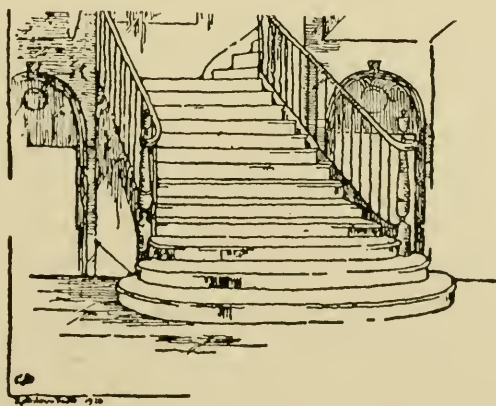
Among our American Officers, few, if any received so large a number of Decorations—twenty-three in number—having been knighted nine times. He was made Grand Officer of the Royal Order of Saint Sava of Serbia; Commander of the Royal Order of Danilo of Montenegro; Commander of the Imperial Order of St. Anne of Russia; Commander of the Royal Order of George the First of Greece; Commander of the Royal Order of Polonia Restituta of Poland; Knight Officer of the Sacred and Military Order of Saint Maurice and Saint Lazarus of Italy, this being the highest order in the gift of the King to any save Royalty; Knight Officer of the Royal Order of the Star of Roumania; and Knight Officer of the Royal Order of the Crown of Roumania.

He received the Italian Croix de Guerre; the Greek Croix de Guerre; the Czecho-Slovak Croix de Guerre; The Royal Serbian Red Cross; the Greek Military Medal; the Panamanian Medal de la Solidaridad; the Montenegrin Gold Medal for Merit; the Serbian Sanitary Service Silver Medal; the Italian-Austrian Campaign Medal with two Stars; the French Commemorative Medal for the Great War; the White Cross of the Third Italian Army and the Italian Silver Earthquake Service Medal and the British General Service Medal. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain and of the Dante Society of Italy.

He married Mary Swigert Hendrick,*¹ of Frankfort, whose home was "The Terraces." They have one son, Edgar Erskine Hume Jr. Her brother, John Buford Hendrick Jr., held the commission of Captain in the Ordinance Department in the World War.

In concluding my account of this galaxy of National Celebrities, with the talented young physician and his brilliant war services, the fault is all my own, if in vain I have labored to show that the spirit of inspiration and service ever prevailing this historic corner, is neither dead—nor sleeping.

*¹Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Buford Hendrick.



Addenda

After this book had gone to the publisher the author came into the possession of the following letters which give in more defined detail a glimpse of the life at "Liberty Hall."

In a letter from Aaron Burr to his daughter Theodosia, it being part of a journal kept by him during his travels in the South and West in 1805, he writes:

"Arrived at Lexington on the 20th of August, 1805; left for Frankfort, distance of twenty two miles, on the 31st. I am magnificently lodged at the house of John Brown who married your old friend, Miss Mason, who is, you know, the sister of my friend the "Priest" John Mason. She has two fine boys, the youngest now four. I find him something like A. B. A. and of course I amuse myself with him a great deal. Mrs. Brown is still very handsome and speaks of you with attachment and respect."

Under the date of July 1, 1819, the following letter was written by Mrs. Brown to her son Orlando, then a student at Princeton College.

"The President, *James Monroe* has arrived and departed. He was received with due public honors, as the papers will inform you. Yesterday morning he breakfasted with us, in company with General Jackson and that hero whose cool, determined and successful courage has never been rivalled in ancient or modern times, who so bravely defended Fort Harrison, Maj. Zachary Taylor. They spent the last evening at Mr. Bibb's, breakfasted this morning at the Governor's and are now on their way to Colonel Richard M. Johnson's*¹ where they will dine today, your father and uncle James Brown will accompany them. Your father presided at the public dinner, and has been much distinguished by the President.

"General Adair dined with the President in company with General Jackson, but no conjectures are formed respecting their feelings toward each other, some fears were entertained that General Jackson would be personally insulted, but nothing of the kind occurred. Indeed, his signal service to his nation ought to obliterate every sentiment of local jealousy, for if he has not done the Kentuckians justice, he has procured them, as part of the American Republic, incalculable advantages."

*¹Col. Richard Mentor Johnson, born Bryants Station, Ky., 1781, died Frankfort, Ky. 1850, is credited with having killed Tecumseh; distinguished Colonel at the battle of the Thames. Member of the Kentucky Legislature, and Representative and Senator in Congress; four years Vice-President of the United States.

General LaFayette's visit to Frankfort was also the theme of an interesting letter written by Mrs. Margaretta (Mason) Brown to her Mother Mrs. John Mason of New York City:

Frankfort, Kentucky, July 12, 1825

—————the arrival of General LaFayette occasioned as much bustle (in proportion to the population) here as at New York, and I must relate a circumstance which I know will give you pleasure, as it was the cause of great gratification to me. There was a splendid Ball to be given in the evening, but as there were many Ladies who did not attend Balls, and yet wished to see the General, they were introduced to him at his Marquee, I was one of the number and had such a hearty and long-continued shake of the hand as to occasion the envy of many an impatient expectant. In the evening twelve or fourteen of my particular friends took tea with me and urged me to go to the Ball in order to have another interview with the General. I told them my objections, that I had not frequented any place of public amusement for many years, and that although I might spend a few minutes in a Ball room without contamination, yet I thought it inconsistent with the profession I had made. Several of my friends replied "that they were church members as well as myself and that though they would not go at any other time, yet as such an occasion would never come again they thought themselves justified to attend. Thus we parted, they all paraded off to the Ball, except Elizabeth Humphrey's and myself, but they had not been gone more than 20 minutes when who should arrive here but General LaFayette, his son and suite. The General spent nearly an hour with us in most delightful conversation, while those who went to the Ball did not exchange a syllable with him. Had I not a triumph?

"The General was introduced to Mason at Lexington. He told him politely that he was indebted to his family for all the honor and pleasure he had received since his arrival in America for that if his uncle James Brown (our Minister at the Court of France) had not become Security for his return, he would never have been permitted to leave France. He paid but one other visit in town, and that was to Mrs. Todd, a sister of Mrs. Madison."

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